

Appl. No. 10/665,169
Amdt. Dated March 9, 2005

Amendments to the Specification

Please note that the specification in the above-referenced application was amended by way of a substitute specification submitted by the Applicant on March 4, 2005. According to the substitute specification submitted on such date now represents the "previous version" of the specification with respect to this current supplemental amendment.

Amendments are hereby made to the specification by way of several replacement paragraphs as indicated below. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(i), Applicant hereby instructs that each paragraph identified herein is to be replaced with a respective replacement paragraph. The location of each paragraph to be replaced is unambiguously identified below with respect to the "previous version" of the specification. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii), the full text of each replacement paragraph is provided below with markings to show all the changes relative to the "previous version" of the paragraph.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 1 of page 8 of the specification as follows:

As shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B, an example of a packaged diaper 10, after being prepared in accordance with the description to follow below, includes a diaper 12 having a second, reduced volumetric configuration characterized by a reduced length $L_{2-sub-2}$ and width $W_{2-sub-2}$ of the diaper 12. The reduced volumetric configuration can differ from the nominal volumetric configuration in width, height, thickness, volume and overall size. As will be appreciated from the figures, not only is the volume of the packaged diaper reduced overall, but in the example embodiment at least two of the: 1) length; 2) width; and, 3) height, can also be reduced. Thus, the diaper can be reduced in volumetric configuration to consume much less space than the diaper consumes when in the nominal configuration.

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Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 27 of page 8 of the specification as follows:

While the reduced volume configuration can be created and maintained in a number of ways, in the embodiment shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B, the packaged diaper 10 includes encasement 14, which can encompass the reduced-volume diaper. Once the diaper 12 is disposed within the encasement, the encasement can be at least partially evacuated of air so as to contain the diaper in at least a partial vacuum state. The evacuation of air from within the diaper and encasement can be done in a number of ways, such as by conventional vacuum-packing methods.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 17 of page 9 of the specification as follows:

Upon evacuation of air from the encasement, the encasement can be sealed, for example at an edge portion 16 to maintain the vacuum within the encasement and diaper 12. In this manner a differential pressure can be created within and without the encasement to maintain the second, reduced volumetric configuration of the diaper. While the encasement is shown in FIG. 2B as sealed at an edge portion 16, it will be understood that the encasement can be sealed conventionally in a variety of ways in a variety of locations.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on line 18 of page 10 of the specification as follows:

The inventor has found that a conventional size 6 diaper can be reduced in size and volume from a nominal size of approximately 9 inches long by 4.5 inches wide by 0.25 inch to 1 inch 9" long by 4 1/2" wide by 1/4" to 1" in height/thickness (depending on expansion after removal from conventional packaging) to a reduced size of approximately 3.5 inches long by 2.25 inches wide by 1 inch 3 1/2" long by 2 1/4" wide by 1" in height. In the embodiment shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B, the packaged diaper 10 can include a reduced volumetric shape configuration which comprises a substantially rectangular shape, although other shapes are contemplated as well, as discussed in further detail below. In this manner, the packaged diaper can be easily carried, handled and stored within a purse, pocket, bag or other place or containment for carriage.